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WILL ALWAYS REMAIN LOYAL
TO THE GREAT CAUSE OF SOCIALISM
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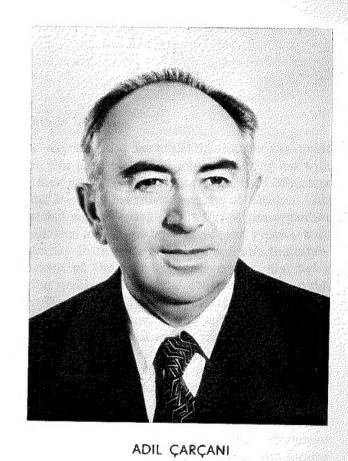
CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
OF THE PSRA

KIBRISTA SUSYALIST
GERÇEK LUMBRA BURÛSU
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SOCIALIST ALBANIA WILL ALWAYS REMAIN LOYAL TO THE GREAT CAUSE OF SOCIALISM AND THE REVOLUTION

Speech at the 8th Session of the 9th Legislature of the People's Assembly on the program and composition of the Council of Ministers, January 15, 1982

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Comrade Deputies,

I express my heartfelt thanks for the great trust you have placed on me in charging me with the task of Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania. This trust belongs to our glorious Party, the organizer of all the majestic victories of our people, both yesterday in the war for liberation and the establishment of the people's state power, and today in the great work for the construction of socialism. The task with which you have entrusted me is a great honour and, at the same time, a task of great responsibility. I assure you that the Council of Ministers which will be appointed by this Assembly, will work with all its might to put into practice, faithfully and with unwavering determination, the correct Marxist-Leninist line of our Party of Labour for the construction of socialism and the defence of the Homeland. The Government will work to ensure that our internal and foreign policy, defined by the Central Committee of the Party, with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, will serve ever better the defence of the lofty interests, the freedom and independence of the Homeland, the construction of socialism, the interest of the revolution and the preservation of peace in the world.

The Albanian people, under the leadership of the Party, have worked with self-denial and achieved majestic victories in all fields — political, economic and social, have successfully coped with the difficulties created by the savage imperialist-revisionist blockade, and have crushed every plan and plot of internal and external enemies against our country and our socialist order. Our people have achieved these successes through great political maturity, through a great mobilization of their creative energies, and through a steel unity around the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha, with profound and unshakeable confidence in the cause of socialism and communism.

The successful holding of the 8th Congress of the Party and the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of our heroic Party, have created a revolutionary atmosphere, aroused great enthusiasm for work, and further enhanced the mobilization of the working class, the cooperativist peasantry and all the working masses to carry out and overfulfil the many tasks set by the Congress, and have further strengthened the unity of the

Party and that of the people around the Party. Clear expressions of this mobilization and determination of the working masses are the revolutionary initiatives of our working people to carry the construction of socialism steadily forward, relying entirely on our own forces.

The report which Comrade Enver Hoxha delivered at the 8th Congress of the Party of Labour of Albania is a document of very great importance, a scientific Marxist-Leninist summing-up of the 40 years' experience of our Party. It sets the course which our country will follow in the construction of socialism during the coming period. This report lays down very important guiding tasks for all the organs of the state and the economy, in particular for the Council of Ministers, and sets clear objectives for the future, which prove that socialism and the dictatorship of the proletariat in Albania are becoming ever stronger and that there is no force which can disturb them. The Council of Ministers and all the state organs, under the leadership of the Party, will work with all their strength to carry out completely all the majestic tasks which the Congress set.

Comrade Deputies,

Allow me, on the basis of the Constitution and the Regulations of the People's Assembly, to propose to the People's Assembly, in accord with the opinion of the Central Committee of the Party, the following composition for the Council of Ministers:

- 1. Vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers

 Manush Myftiu
- 2. Vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers
 Pali Miska
- 3. Vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Finance Qirjako Mihali
- 4. Minister of Foreign Affairs Nesti Nase
- 5. Minister of People's Defence Kadri Hazbiu
- 6. Minister of Internal Affairs Hekuran Isai
- 7. Chairman of the State Planning Commission Petro Dode
- 8. Minister of Industry and Mines

Llambi Gegprifti

- 9. Minister of Energy Prokop Murra
- 10. Minister of Light and Food Industry

Esma Ulqinaku

- 11. Minister of Agriculture Themie Thomai
- 12. Minister of Construction Rahman Hanku
- 13. Minister of Communications

Luan Babameto

- 14. Minister of Internal Trade Viktor Nushi
- 15. Minister of Foreign Trade Nedin Hoxha
- 16. Minister of Communal Economy

Rrapo Dervishi

17. Minister of Education and Culture

Tefta Cami

18. Minister of Health Llambi Ziçishti

As always, the Council of Ministers will be guided in all its activities by the Marxist-Leninist line, directives and orientations of the Party.

The activity of the Council of Ministers will be centred on carrying out the tasks for the ceaseless strengthening of the people's state power, the dynamic development of the socialist economy and culture, the further strengthening of the defence capacity of the Homeland, and the defence of the victories achieved.

In particular, the Council of Ministers will be engaged in carrying out the fundamental task of the 7th Five-year Plan which the 8th Congress of the Party endorsed, to ensure the rapid, proportional development of the economy, through the development of the socialist industrialization of the country, the strengthening and intensification of agriculture, increasing the efficiency of the economy, the ceaseless development of the technical-scientific revolution, and the continuous perfection of the socialist relations of production, in order to ensure the continuous raising of the material and cultural level of the working masses.

The great successes which have been achieved in the development of the people's economy and culture, have accelerated the process of the

transformation of socialist Albania into an industrial-agricultural country, and have made our economy stable, with great possibilities to advance, relying entirely on our own forces. In this context, our industry and its leading role in the process of socialist construction, have been greatly built up and strengthened. In striving to carry out the tasks of the 8th Congress of the Party, the Council of Ministers will give special attention to the further strengthening of industry, giving priority to heavy industry, and especially the energy industry, in order to ensure the present and future needs of the economy. In this direction we shall work to guarantee and further improve the positive balance of our energy resources, especially of oil, gas and electric power, by increasing production and applying a strict regime of savings.

For the development of heavy industry, special attention will be given to the prospecting, prooving, extraction and processing of useful minerals, putting into circulation new minerals which our economy needs.

Carrying out the instructions of the Party, the Council of Ministers will take measures for the further development of heavy processing industry, the ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, and the chemical industry. In this field, the complex utilization of all the components of our minerals and the by-products of industry will be ensured, with

reduction of expenditure and improved profitability in these branches.

The Government faces especially great tasks to carry out the instructions of the Party in connection with the full utilization, in breadth and depth, of the engineering industry, especially for the production of machinery and equipment needed by various branches of the economy, as well as for the building of new lines and factories and the reconstruction and modernization of existing ones with our own forces. Measures will be taken for the improvement of the technology of production, for the continuous improvement of specialization and cooperation, the application of standardization and unification of production, in order to raise to a higher level the effectiveness of the powerful engineering base which has been established in our country.

At the same time, the Council of Ministers will take measures for the further development of the light and food industry, along with heavy industry, in order to increase the volume, extend the range and improve the quality of mass consumer goods. This will ensure better stability and continuous improvement of supplies for the people.

During the years of the people's power our agriculture has made great advances. These are the fruit of the correct line which the Party applies for the construction of socialism in the country-

side, and speak of the great superiority which the socialist order creates.

Proceeding from the assessment of the Party that agriculture is the basis of our economy and carrying out the tasks which the 8th Congress of the Party approved, the Council of Ministers will take measures for the further development of the intensification of agricultural production and the ceaseless improvement of socialist relations in the countryside. The main task will be to increase the production of bread grain, to feed the people and ensure reserves, without diminishing the attention given to other agricultural products, vegetables, industrial crops, and the development of fruitgrowing and forests. Special attention will be paid to the development of livestock raising in particular, both from the quantitative aspect and in the direction of breed improvement and the increase of productivity, as an important source of food for the people and supplies for the industry,

To carry out these tasks, we shall work to secure the bulk of the increased production from the increase in yield-rates of agricultural crops and the productivity of livestock, through the more rational utilization of land and agricultural machinery, the use of high-productivity seeds and breed improvement, and the further perfecting of measures in connection with the formation of joint herds of the peasants' personal livestock. In

particular, the Council of Ministers will devote special care to carrying out the tasks which the 8th Congress of the Party set for the zone with a high level of intensification, as well as for the further improvement of the socialist relations in this zone.

For the all-round strengthening of the socialist economy, special attention will be given to the timely implementation of the majestic program of fundamental investments and constructions approved by the 8th Congress of the Party. Priority will be given, as always, to investments in the productive sphere, to the timely drafting of designs and specifications, with high quality and low costs, to raising the level of mechanization of building work and reducing the time required for the construction and installation of objects that will be built, increasing their economic effectiveness.

The Council of Ministers will take important measures to increase exports of our goods, to improve their structure and quality, to find new export markets and to sell the goods profitably. Further measures will be taken also for improved organization of the struggle and efforts of the working people to produce within the country many of the goods machines and items of equipment which we still import.

Keeping in the centre of attention the instruc-

tion of the Party that without exports there are no imports, special care will be devoted to maintaining and further strengthening the positive export-import balance, which marks a very great success for our country if one bears in mind the fact that even many industrially developed states have a negative export-import balance today.

Today socialist Albania, which is building socialism relying solely on its own forces, conducts trade with more than 50 states in different regions of the world. In the future, too, the Council of Ministers will take measures to develop our trade relations in the interests of socialism and on the basis of reciprocal benefit and advantage. This correct policy and the results it has achieved refute the fabrications of enemies of our country who charge that we are isolated and alone. Let our enemies prattle as much as they wish that we are isolated and alone. Socialist Albania is not isolated and can never be isolated. At the same time, it will never «open its doors» in the way that the bourgeoisie and the revisionists want and conceive the development of trade relations. Our trade relations with any country have not been and will not be either «opening up» or «closing down». They are normal exchanges which are made on the basis of reciprocal benefit and the principle of give-and-take, without ever accepting any credit or aid from anyone.

On account of the important role which transport has in the harmonious overall development of the economy, measures will be taken to further strengthen the various kinds of transports, giving priority to railway transport, with the aim of ensuring the best possible circulation of goods for the needs of the economy, the people and defence.

The Council of Ministers will fight for the implementation of the directive stressed by Comrade Enver Hoxha at the 8th Congress of the Party, that «In the development of production and all other social activities the Party has always had the working man, the fulfilment of his material and cultural needs, in the centre of its attention.» To this end, all the necessary measures will be taken to further improve the trade network, communal services, the health service, etc. Special attention will be paid to ensuring the necessary supplies of consumer goods for the people. At the same time, the Council of Ministers will take measures to raise the educational and cultural level of the people, by improving the quality of the work in the schools, in order to equip the younger generation with knowledge of the contemporary level. Greater work will be done for the development of scientific research work in all fields, so that science becomes a powerful support for the achievement of the targets of the plan, and leads to the solution of the present and future problems of production. In the conditions of the development of our economy, relying entirely on our own forces, science and technique will play an important role in the development of our socialist economy and culture.

Achievement of these objectives envisaged in the 7th Five-year Plan faces us with the task that we must take serious measures to raise the efficiency of the economy and increase the sources of socialist accumulation. To this end, the organs of the state and the economy will strive to increase the productivity of social labour, to strengthen the savings regime, and reduce costs in all sectors, to improve the quality of production, of construction, etc. The internal economic, technical and financial controls will be strengthened and their active role further enhanced, all the internal reserves which our economy has and creates will be discovered and utilized by relying firmly on-advanced experience.

All the above measures will lead to the further strengthening of the stability of our economy, the market and prices, to increasing the real incomes of the population in town and countryside. Despite the many great obstacles and difficulties created by the imperialist-revisionist encirclement and blockade, our socialist socio-economic order is being developed and consolidated day by day, and the life of our people is becoming happier and more prosperous. In all the rest of the world the

financial and economic crisis is wreaking havoc, prices are rising, and there are marked shortages of goods in many countries, inflation and unemployment are mounting, taxes and the impoverishment of the working masses are increasing, while in our country the opposite is occurring. Social production is going up, the national income is increasing, unemployment does not exist, there is no inflation, no price rises, but there is continuous economic stability, a steady increase in the wellbeing of the people, and the market is full of goods at prices which do not alter. These indicators speak of the vitality of our economy, of the superiority of our socialist order over the capitalist order, speak of the happy, peaceful, joyous life of our whole people.

Certain hack writers continue to describe Albania as a poor country, but our economic and spiritual reality refutes and unmasks what they say in every case and on every question. The economic situation of Albania, its social and cultural development, is a reality obvious to all. If someone does not want to see, or wants to deny this reality, that does not worry us. Our people see it and feel it every day, and they are satisfied with their progress and do not envy anyone.

Along with measures for the intensive development of the economy and culture, the Council of Ministers will take measures for the further strengthening of the defence capacity of the country by continuously strengthening, modernizing and revolutionizing all the structures of the armed forces, and the links between the army and the people. Likewise, the work of the organs of internal affairs, the state security service, the people's police and the border forces will also be further strengthened.

In order to ensure the carrying out of all tasks put forward, the Council of Ministers will work to raise the scientific management and organization of the economy to a higher level in all its links, to combat manifestations of subjectivism and voluntarism, manifestations of bureaucracy and liberalism, and especially the outdated concepts, methods and forms of work. «The major tasks which we face,» pointed out Comrade Enver Hoxha at the 8th Congress of the Party of Labour of Albania, «require further improvement of the method and style of all state organs, and the organization and management of state affairs.» In carrying out this very important task the Council of Ministers will work to ensure that in all the state and economic organs there is an enhanced sense of responsibility at work, initiative and selfaction, that manifestations of officialdom and technocracy, narrow departmental or sectional interests are combated, so that each organ and each worker accomplishes his task and applies to the letter the competences allocated to him. We shall work to ensure that the executive organs are subject and regularly render account to the representative organs of the people, that the democratic character of our state power is safeguarded and strengthened, that the participation of the working masses in the guidance of state affairs is extended, and that the state control and the worker and peasant control become ever stronger.

Continuous care will be shown to ensure that the socialist law is strengthened and respected with precision, for the defence and development of the socialist property, for the consistent waging of the class struggle and for the better and more active functioning of all the organs of the state administration in carrying out their tasks and meeting the needs of the people.

Comrade Deputies,

The majestic successes achieved by our people under the leadership of the Party of Labour of Albania, with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, and its consistent principled foreign policy have brought about that socialist Albania enjoys ever greater prestige and respect in the international arena, and have won it many friends and well-wishers all over the world and the friendship and respect of freedom-loving and peace-loving peoples. Consistently adhering to the political line of

the Party and the tasks which Comrade Enver Hoxha put forward in the report that he delivered at the 8th Congress of the Party, in the field of foreign policy the Government will continue its constructive efforts for the development of the international relations of our country on the basis of the well-known principles which govern relations between sovereign states, with all those countries which respect these principles and maintain correct stands towards our country.

Our people and socialist state resolutely oppose and are irreconcilable to the end with the policy of the United States of America and the Soviet Union. These two imperialist superpowers are aggressive, warmongering, colonialist, oppressing powers and sworn enemies of the freedom of the peoples and world peace. The Albanian socialist state and its independent sovereign people have not had, do not have, and will not have diplomatic or any other kind of relations with them.

In regard to Britain, it must be said that British governments of all times and of all political shades have displayed and continue to display hostility towards the Albanian people and their people's state power. We repay this stand in the same coin: Apart from other things, we have declared, and declare again, that if the British Government does not return to socialist Albania all the Albanian gold seized by Britain, together with the interest accrued,

we will not have any diplomatic relations with Britain and will not even hold any sort of negotiations with it.

We have diplomatic, commercial and cultural relations with many other states of Europe, Asia, Latin America and Africa, and we are ready to establish such relations with other states on the basis of mutual interest, non-interference in internal affairs, equality, and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Our stands in connection with the neighbouring countries are well known. We have been and are for the preservation and further strengthening of good neighbourly relations, for the development of normal relations on the basis of mutual respect and common interest.

In recent years, our commercial and cultural relations, exchanges of people, etc. with Greece have developed in the right direction. We think these exchanges serve to strengthen the friendship between the Albanian and Greek peoples, which has a traditional basis of long standing. Our Government will spare no effort for the extension and development of these relations in the future. At the same time, we rejoice at the fact that the Greek Government and Greek people, too, are for the strengthening of friendship and relations with our country.

Possibilities exist for progress in relations with Italy. It is our desire that these relations should

be further developed. But this is dependent also on the disposition and interest of the Italian side to collaborate with us on the basis of equality and mutual respect. The normal development of Italian-Albanian relations is in the interest of our two countries and peoples.

The Albanian people and their Government desire that our relations with the Republic of Turkey should develop as hitherto, in a normal way and in the spirit of friendship and common interest. The basis for such a thing is not lacking. It consists of the good will, respect and friendship which exist between our peoples and countries, and their conviction that the development and extension of relations between Albania and Turkey serve their interests and the security and peace in our zone.

The policy of our state towards the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has not altered. It was defined and clearly explained at the 8th Congress of the Party. The slanders, fabrications and distortions which are made of the policy of our socialist state by the Yugoslav leadership, do not alter in the least our policy towards the state and the peoples of Yugoslavia.

The leadership of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has built up and is keeping ablaze a cold war against the People's Socialist Republic of Albania. This is being done to disguise the politi-

cal and economic bankruptcy, the bankruptcy of the pseudo-socialist system of Yugoslavia, the bankruptcy of the demagogy about the allegedly just solution of the national question in Yugoslavia. This cold war which the Yugoslav leadership is waging brings damage and dangers not to socialist Albania, but to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and its peoples.

We have said previously, and we repeat, that we have had and still have political and ideological contradictions with the Yugoslav leadership. These we point out and will go on pointing out. At the same time, nobody has stopped the Yugoslav revisionists, when they have pointed out and continue to point out, moreover with great and multiplied energies, the contradictions which they have with us. We do not accept their social system and policy, and they do not accept our system. This is clear for our part. It is they who are trying to hide the sun with their broken-down sieve.

It has been and is our desire to have good neighbourly relations with Yugoslavia, to have normal diplomatic, trade and cultural relations with Yugoclavia, based on the recognized principles of non-interference in one another's internal affairs, equality, respect for sovereignty, and non-violation of the territorial integrity of each country. If the Yugoslav revisionists have embittered these rela-

tions and led them into an impasse, it is they who are to blame for this and not us.

We have declared, and declare again, that we want friendship with the peoples of Yugoslavia, that we have not interfered and will not interfere in their internal affairs. We demand that Yugoslavia does the same thing towards Albania because in the not-distant past, as the historical documents prove, it has interfered in our internal affairs with force and all kinds of intrigues.

Socialist Albania has never made territorial claims, has never demanded border rectifications. We have not been and are not for the destabilization of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. These things cannot be stated more clearly or more solemnly. This has been and is the political line of the Party of Labour of Albania and the Government of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania. The Yugoslav leadership can slander as much as it likes, but its slanders and fabrications do not alter our political stand.

We have declared and declare again that if the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is attacked by any superpower, the People's Socialist Republic of Albania is attacked, too. In this case, the two countries will be at war against the same enemy. The Yugoslavs have never made such a clear declaration. Why? The sinister aims of the Yugoslav leadership are not hard to guess.

One of the obvious dangers that is threatening Yugoslavia is the Soviet-Bulgarian danger. We have stated publicly that the Soviets and their satellites, Bulgarian or other, are among our most savage enemies, therefore, we have opposed their aggressive aims towards us and our neighbours, and will oppose them to the end. This is as clear as crystal.

Why does Yugoslavia also not make such a declaration, but instead strengthens its links with them, and in order to disguise these links, makes insinuations alleging that the Soviet Union and the other countries of the Warsaw Pact have not accepted our official denunciation and rejection of this pact? Likewise, why do they make insinuations about our treaty with Bulgaria of the time of Dimitrov, which at the present time is null and void?

In order to use this treaty to the detriment of socialist Albania, the Russian aggressors and their Bulgarian lackeys will, first of all, have to pass over the bodies of Albanians, and this is also in favour of the peoples of Yugoslavia. Therefore, instead of making insinuations in connection with our treaty with Bulgaria, the Yugoslav leaders would do well to denounce the treaties which they have signed previously and which link them with the superpowers.

In order to cover up the Great-Serb terror which was launched against the Albanians who

live on their lands in the Yugoslav Federation, the Titoite leadership with great shamelessness accused Albania of inciting disturbances and interfering in the internal affairs of Yugoslavia. This claim is as slanderous as it is absurd, because there are disturbances not only in Kosova and the other regions where a part of the Albanian nation is living, but all over Yugoslavia. This situation is so evident, and the real causes of it are so obvious that nobody, not even those ill-disposed towards Albania, place the blame on Albania for the situation and events in Yugoslavia. Their slanders remained slanders and their fabrications remained fabrications.

It is not socialist Albania which demanded the status of a republic for Kosova within the framework of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, but the Albanians of Kosova themselves who demanded and continue to demand this. They demand this because their sovereign rights within the Yugoslav Constitution have been violated. The demands of the Albanians of Kosova and the other parts of Yugoslavia were drowned in blood, the prisons were filled with Albanians, and a savage wave of chauvinist, terrorist vengeance was raised against them. And those who committed these acts, condemned by the whole progressive world, concocted slanders and lies, created all sorts of baseless theories and suppositions in order to prove what

cannot be proved about things which are not happening in Kosova alone.

We have defended and will continue to defend all the rights due to our Albanian brothers who live in Yugoslavia, without any hesitation, within international laws and norms.

The foreign policy of our Party and socialist state was defined and formulated clearly and precisely at the 8th Congress of the Party. This policy of our Party was made known to the whole world which understood and appreciated it as it is in fact. Only the Yugoslav leaders are falsifying and distorting it for their own purposes, which we mentioned above. They read the report delivered by Comrade Enver Hoxha at the 8th Congress upside down, according to their own pleasure and desires. However, the line of our Party, both in internal policy and in foreign policy, is clear, unequivocal and without hidden implications. The stands of our Party and state have been expressed openly, and nothing is hidden from anybody. Our Government will implement it consistently and with determination.

Comrade Deputies,

I express the profound conviction, and assure you, that the Council of Ministers, under the correct and far-sighted leadership of the Party, of its Central Committee with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, and relying firmly on our valiant, patriotic, industrious, vigilant and fearless people, on their steel unity around the Party, will work and fight tirelessly for the implementation of the principled internal and foreign policy of the Party, for the socialist construction of the country, for the allround strengthening of the dictatorship of the proletariat and for the defence of the Homeland, will always defend the lofty interests of the people and will remain loyal to the end to the great cause of socialism and the revolution.